

**REMARKS:**

The above-requested preliminary amendment to the specification does not add any new matter; it merely corrects an inadvertent error which is obvious to those skilled in the art, since it obviously makes no sense to carry out a PCR reaction with two reverse primers and no forward primer. Furthermore, it is conventional in the art to name the forward primer first and the reverse primer second. Finally, it is also clearly derivable from the respective genomic DNA-sequence which primer must be the forward primer and which primer must be the reverse primer.

The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner allow the above-referenced preliminary amendment to the Specification in order to correct the obvious error made in the description of the primers.

Claims 1-32 remain for consideration in the above-identified patent application, claims 1-3, 14-16, 21, 22, 24, 26-30 and 32 are being amended by this Preliminary Amendment.

This Preliminary Amendment is made solely to correct minor errors and to place the claims, originally filed in a German application, in better form for consideration by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Specifically, the claims are modified to remove the “/” punctuation and the “and/or” language and to rewrite them using “or” language. These amendments were made only for clarity.

No new matter is added by this preliminary amendment. This preliminary amendment is being submitted before the mailing date of the first office action on the merits.

This response is being filed in accordance with recently revised 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, as set forth in 68 F.R. 38611 (June 30, 2003). If any amendment is considered to be not in compliance with recently revised 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at his earliest possible convenience.

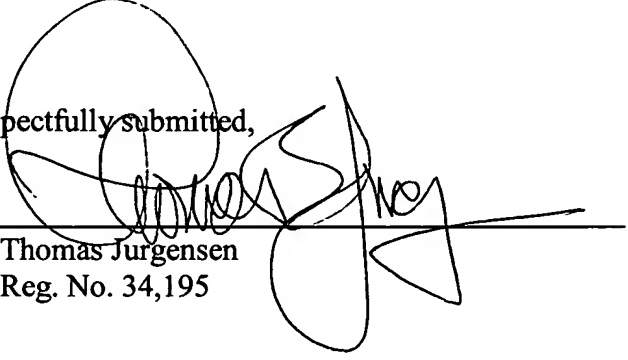


**CONCLUSION:**

Entry of the preliminary amendment merely corrects an inadvertent mistake in the Specification and clarifies the language of certain claims, which by its nature does not unduly interfere with the Examiner's preparation of the first office action. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner approve entry of the current amendments.

Date: 09/30/05

Respectfully submitted,

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